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Book and Job Printing

EXECUTED WITH NEATNESS AND DESPATCH.

POETRY.

From the Philadelphia Courier.

HE PRAYED NOT FOR THE POOR.

A man of God knelt down to pray,
A man of years and wealth,
To close with thanks the closing day
And ask continued health.

The coldest wind of winter's night
Went whistling by each door;
He prayed; that was a holy rite,
But prayed not for the poor.

He prayed for those on Africa's sands,
For those on Christian towers,
He prayed for those in heathen lands,
But prayed not for the poor.

He prayed for freedom, and for peace,
For increase of his store;
That wars and wicked stripes might cease,
But prayed not for the poor.

Of this world's goods, with riches caught,
He was an ardent seeker;
He prayed for everything, I thought,
Except the neighbor's need.

The old, the young, and those in power,
Afflicted, sad, and sure
Were prayed for that cold evening's hour,
But no prayers for the poor.

C. F. D.

POPULAR TALES.

From the Philadelphia Saturday Courier.

THE KENNEBEC SLOOP

AND THE ENGLISH CRUISERS.

A TALE OF THE LAST WAR.

BY PROF. J. H. INGRAHAM.

The river Kennebec, in Maine, is without a rival in New England, either for its historic associations or the beauty of its natural scenery. It rises among the passes of the Highlands that form the north-east boundary line, between the United States and Canada, and after flowing through a romantic region for many leagues, enters a valley of surpassing beauty, through which it meanders between level intervals of the richest verdure. The waters of this river are remarkable for their liquid transparency, while in a body their appearance is nearly black. The hills that rise on either shore are bold and nobly wooded; and here and there from above the silently gliding wave, dark granite precipices, clad with moss and the graceful wreaths of the mountain vine whose beauty it ever verdant. Fills and rapids, characterized by wildness and even sublimity at intervals, break the dark rolling tide of this beautiful river, and with their roar awaken the echoes of the forest-clad hills.

Numerous picturesque villages adorn its banks and substantial farm-houses, with uplands and low-lands shining with golden grain, meet the eye at every league. The capital of the State, Augusta, stands upon a fine table or plateau seventy feet above the river, in the bosom of embracing hills, and commanding some of the loveliest scenery in the north. Its waters are enriched by the canyons of thriving commerce, and its unobscured streets of villas indicate a population of wealth and refined taste.

Below the capital, the river leaves the shores of other fair towns, rivals in splendor of the capital, and reflects upon its glassy bosom from either shore the mansions of luxury. Before reaching the sea, it leaps all at once from a deep gorge, in whose rocky arms it has been for some minutes confined, and spreads out a noble bay a league in breadth. At the southern side of this broad expanse, it enters another narrow pass between rocky islets, and sweeping along a few more miles further, with stately motions, passing the handsome town of Bath, it rolls between wild precipices with olden times fortresses, to discharge its shining waters flowing into the blue ocean.

It is in the vicinity of Bath, and of one of these fortresses at the mouth of the river, that we lay the scene of our story. If we have lingered to discourse of the fair Kennebec, it is because our hearts are with this beautiful river. Upon its banks we spent our boyhood, and in maturer age we have chosen it as our summer home. We love its dark waters, its green wooded hills, its valleys and its rocky cliffs. In no land have we found a river so grandly beautiful. The Hudson is majestic and grandly beautiful in its features; the Kennebec is the Hudson in miniature; and if the tasteful traveller will come and visit it in the spring and summer time, when the sun is bright and the winds are still, he will gaze upon its pleasant shores and beautiful windings with scarce less pleasure, without the awe, than he has felt in passing the Hudson.

There is a fortress near the mouth of this river just on the skirts of the sea, called Fort Hume, well. It is now dismantled, and it is a celebrated resort in July weather for the Kennebeckers. It was erected during the last war to defend the entrance to the river. It is situated upon a low

beach, which, half a mile northward, is commanded by a bold headland a hundred feet in height, on which also from the ruins of a battery. The scenery around it made up of rocky islands, bold headlands, the river penetrating far inland, the ocean spreading its bosom away south and eastwardly, ever and forever heaving as if it were earth's great heart! A few fishermen's huts dot the sides of the shores, and the tower of Seguin light glitters white upon the head of its purpose-shaped island. The fisher's skiff rocks lightly on the sea, and upon the hazy horizon rests a sail or two, so distant that they seem fixed like shining pinnacles of white marble lifting their tops above the ocean.

At the period of our story, which was near the close of the last war, two British armed vessels had been cruising off the mouth of the river for some days occasionally running close in with the fort so as to draw its fire, and then tacking and standing seaward again. One of these vessels was a sloop of war and the other a brig of sixteen guns. They were effectively blockading the river, and for some time no vessel had either come out or gone in. Every thing was brought to, even to the small fishing boat, and the strictest vigilance was maintained from the very first day of their arrival on the coast.

One morning in June, just as the sun was rising from the sea, flinging his fiery spears far across the sparkling waves, kindling up every object upon which they lit, the two English vessels were seen standing in towards the mouth of the river, under top-gallant sails, with the wind free on the starboard quarter. They were about half a mile apart, their courses converging to a point. This point was a small Kennebec sloop lugging the land endeavoring to make the entrance of the Kennebec. Her broad main sail was flung to the wind like a great white wing and she was sweeping along across the water like a gull flying before a storm. She had been discovered by the cruisers only a few minutes before, when they tacked together and pressed after her to intercept her, making sail as they went. Fifteen minutes more of the obscurity of morning and the adventurous sloop would have got into the river and under the guns of the fort unseen or seen too late to be cut off.

It was a beautiful sight to behold the three vessels in motion; one small, unarmored and with but three sails to help her flight, bounding along close under the land; the others tall, frowning with batteries and covered with canvas from deck to truck.

The sloop was two miles in shore of the cruisers, and about the same distance westward of the mouth of the harbor, being, when discovered, just sealing round the Cape Small Point. She had, therefore, the same distance to run to gain shelter, that her pursuers had to come up with her present position.

The cruisers stood on for about five minutes after tacking in the same converging lines, when the corvette signaled the brig, which immediately luffed and bore up four points eastward, while the former kept her first course. The object had in view by this maneuver of the brig, it was plainly evident to the fishermen who, from the rocks on which their huts were perched, were watching with interest the pursuing and the pursued, was to intercept her; for they had quickly discovered that a direct chase would be ineffectual, as the sloop showed herself to be a very fast sailer. So the brig stood straight towards the mouth, hoping to reach it in advance of the sloop, while the sloop of war kept on to capture her if she should turn back and attempt to run into Harpswell or Portland.

"We shall be lost, darned if we ain't," Deacon, coolly remarked a tall, ungainly youth of nineteen, who, with a dipper fastened to a ten foot handle, was hauling up water from the sea and throwing it over the mainsail of the sloop, to swell the treads of the canvass and make it better hold wind.

As he spoke, he paused in his work, leaning upon his long dipper-handle, and shutting one eye, took a deliberate survey of the two cruisers.

"Not so long as two numbers of the Polly Ann hold together," "Siah," responded the Deacon, who grasped the helm, and who, with one eye ahead and the other watching the enemy, directed the course of his little vessel towards the shelter he sought. "If we'd only had another ten minutes afore sun-up, we'd a got in. But the day ain't gone to stop for any man, and I don't spect it to. All we must do, is to keep the Polly out of the hands of the Britishers now they've got their eyes on us. Wet the sails, 'Siah! Keep wettin' 'em!"

"I guess they kind o' guess what we've got aboard, Deacon," said 'Siah, as he cast a shrewd spray over the mainsail. "They seem to ake abashed trouble to catch us. See how Polly jumps." The way she tosses water with her bows, I won't have to wet her jib; she does that herself!"

"If we don't get into the river, and then she chaps overboard us, what in natur's to be done, Deacon?"

"It won't do to let 'em capture the six big guns, and two barrels of powder, and ton of shot that we have got for the fort, that is a fact," "Siah," said the decidedly, Captain, or rather "Deacon" Paul Butterfield, who both owned and commanded the Polly, which had been, a few days before, engaged by the government agent in Boston to convey armament and ammunition to Fort Hume. "This enterprise the Deacon, for he was a lawful Deacon in his own town, which was Hallowell, forty miles up the river had cheerfully undertaken, assuring the agent he could get the Polly Ann into the river safely, in spite of the cruisers. Shrewd, bold and cool, the Deacon saw that by running only in the night, and hugging the shore, he should probably be a

ble to get into the Kennebec undiscovered, especially as the cruisers used to stand off shore at night a league or two for an offing, and run in again at sun-rise. The agent felt that a small coasting vessel, with so skillful a captain as Deacon Butterfield, would be quite as likely to get into the river as a large one, if not more so, and gave him the commission. For the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars, the Deacon had bargained to take the cannon and ammunition to the Kennebec, and also he bound himself, if there was danger of his being captured to scuttle the sloop and sink her. We now see him thus far in the progress of his enterprise.

The cannon were long battery thirty-two's six in number, and were laid athwart ships, side by side, upon deck. The shot were piled forward, and in the fore-castle was stored the powder in casks, and securely protected under canvas; tarpulins also covered the guns.

"If we can only stand on ten minutes more," "Siah," said the Deacon to his mate, "I don't fear them are two cruisers a stick! One on 'em you see has luffed to try and cut us off. If 'twas for this plaguy heavy iron we've got in her, I'd show the enemy how to make a keel cut like water through! But we must get in, 'Siah!" he added, turning to a ragged old man, who looked like a weather-beaten fisherman, who comprised all the crew, and who was now engaged in tending the main-sheet, the slack of which he held in his iron fist.

"It's get in safely, Deacon," answered Lot Bissel gruffly, "and get two hundred and fifty dollars, or it's sink the sloop, and no insurance!" "That is a fact, Mr. Bissel," responded the Yankee skipper, with emphasis; and shifting his tobacco from his barboard to his starboard cheek, he glanced under the main boom to see how the fort and shore lay, and then he rose his eye to windward and took with it delicate inspection of the enemy.

"Give a small pull aft on the main-sheet, Mr. Bissel," "Siah," said the skipper, "the Britisher's smoking his pipe!" The Britisher, who was a jet of smoke heaved from the bow of the sloop of war. He had hardly got the words out of his mouth, when the boom of a gun reached their ears, and simultaneously a shot passed whizzing over their ears.

"I don't star that 'ere!" said 'Siah, in a very determined tone, which singularly contrasted with his awkward, rustic exterior. "Give me leave, Deacon, and I will give them a shot back, darn me if I don't!"

"Your gun won't scare them 'Siah," said the main-sheet, Lot. "Be ready to dodge, for I guess there will be another one of them junks of iron this way. They ain't no pilot, or they would not keep so near porpoise rock ledge!"

Cool and steady, the skipper stood at his post, and directed the course of his little craft. All at once he gave a loud hurrah! The sloop of war had struck, under full sail, upon a rock, bare at low water, known as porpoise ledge, and everything was taken aback while her main-royal mast and yard went over the side.

"That is for not taking a pilot on a strange coast," said the skipper, dryly, while his keen little eyes fairly glittered with pleasure; but he made no further demonstrations of joy; but after taking a second glance at the sloop of war and seeing that matters on board of her were in too much confusion for him to trouble himself further about her, he now gave his whole attention to the brig, which was about a mile and a half from him in a straight line, and about equally distant from the entrance to the river.

Upon seeing the accident that had occurred to her consort, she bore down a little, and hoisted a signal. It was responded to on board the sloop when the brig resumed her course.

"The sloop-of-war I suppose, says she don't want any aid; so the brig is left at liberty to intercept us," said the skipper. "It looks too, as if she would be likely to get to the entrance as soon as the Polly; and I guess it is all up with us! But I don't give up so long as a timber hangs to her, or I can have a limb to hold on to the tiller by!" But what in natur' are you doing there, 'Siah?"

Well might the Deacon ask this question. The ambitious young Kennebecer had brought from the fore-castle a keg of powder, and knocked in the head with a handspike, and was now trying some half peck of it up in a bandanna handkerchief, which he had taken from his neck.

"Doing? I am going to give 'em a gun, darned if I ain't! If these here guns is got to go to Davy's locker, I will get one fire out on their first I guess!"

As 'Siah spoke he threw down a moveable section of the bulwark amidships, leaving an open space to the sea, before the muzzles of three of the enormous cannon that lay across the deck. He then took up his huge cartridge, and thrusting it into the muzzle of one of them, began to ram it down with a handspike.

"What on airth is the enter' at?" cried the Deacon.

"Siah made no reply; but having rammed the cartridge home, he rolled a thirty-two pound shot towards it, and giving it a hit, shoved it into the muzzle after the powder.

"Now for priming her; and then I guess if I don't give 'em a Fourth of July salute, they never heard one!"

As he spoke, he poured a handful of powder upon the vent, and then jumping to the cabin, caught up a light pine knot, and waving it to keep it bright, approached the gun.

"Up, 'Siah stop!" shouted the skipper, at the top of his voice; "you'll blow the Polly Ann to Jericho, if you fire that are gun, whated on her!" "I don't calculate I'll be took pres'nt by the Britishers, Deacon, and he put in Dartmoor, I guess! I don't mean to fire yet, but take a

chance for a good aim, and then give 'em saltpeter!" "It'll shake every bone out o' the Polly!" said the captain, in alarm.

As he spoke, the brig, now within a mile distance, fired a shot acrossed her bows, "That means have to, Lot," said the skipper; "Siah, put down that pine knot."

"I meant to, by'n by, Deacon! Wait till I get a shot at 'em! I ain't afeerd o' hurtin' the sloop a bit! You just yaw her a leetle bit, and bring the muzzle o' my artillery peice right agin the brig, and if I don't show 'em how a Yankee gun can speak, I don't never want to see the inside o' Kennebec river again!"

A second gun came from the brig, and the shot passed within ten feet of the Deacon's head, made a rent a fathom long in his mainsail, and the shock caused his peak halfyards to part, and let the peak of his mainsail down. This caused the sloop to fall off a point or two; and while the skipper, unflinching and with a quiet look, was trying to bring her to the wind again, 'Siah, taking advantage of a moment as she swung, in which his loaded gun bore upon the brig, instantly applied the torch to the vent! The roar, the flame, and the concussion were terrific.

The little vessel reeled under the recoil of the vast gun, till the waves poured in over her bows and stern. The skipper and Lot were laid flat upon deck; while 'Siah found himself hanging by the heels in the lee shrouds.

For a few moments the Deacon thought his vessel would go down, she wallowed and planged so— but she soon steadied herself, though with her deck flooded, her jib blown away, and her masts unshipped.

"If goes if they got the shot, it'll settle 'em," said 'Siah, as he dropped feet first out of the rigging, into which he had been blown, upon deck, and tried to see through the smoke.

"You ought to be settled, you 'larnal critter?" cried the Deacon, enraged; "you like to have sunk her, darn ye?"

"Don't swear, Deacon? I want to see if the brig got it!"

"Got it, you fool! I guess you'll get it if I ever see shore again!"

As the smoke slowly rolled away, the brig was discovered, no longer standing down, but knocking about at the mercy of the waves and winds, her foremast gone by the board, and dragging over the side with all its yards and sails. The shot had cut off her mast within ten feet of the deck!

'Siah was perfectly confounded; but he manifested no surprise, while the Deacon and Lot set up a loud hurrah of triumph.

"Why, what is the matter? Why don't you halloo?" said the Deacon, taking breath.

"Cox it ain't nothing! I mean to do!" responded 'Siah, with inimitable sang froia: "I ain't surprised, if you be, Deacon!"

In twenty minutes more the sloop, with her valuable cargo, was safely sheltered under the guns of Fort Hume. The sloop-of-war lay upon the rock till the next tide, and the brig lay by her rigging a jury-mast. Before sunset, both vessels made sail, and steered eastward, on the way towards Halifax, to repair damages. Thus the blockade was raised greatly to the relief of the commerce of the river.

"'Siah is now one of the most popular of our Eastern steamboat captains.

HOW A TAILOR COLLECTED A DEBT.

A TRUE STORY.

Near the close of the last century, a quaker knight of the shears and thimble, who exercised his avocation in Philadelphia, was imposed upon by an adroit scoundrel, who contrived to get a suit of clothes on credit, and afterwards sloped without paying for them. The Quaker was too poor to lose the debt, but like too many others of his cloth, he had apparently no other alternative. The account was placed on his books, and soon forgotten. Some years afterwards, he was examining his old records of debt and credit, profit and loss, when his attention was attracted to this account, and off the circumstances attending it came fresh to mind. Suddenly an odd thought suggested itself.

"I'll try an experiment," said he to himself; "perhaps I may succeed in catching the rogue and getting my pay."

He immediately prepared an advertisement, in substance as follows, which he inserted in the Philadelphia Gazette: "If J—C—, who was in Philadelphia about the month of —, in the year 1795, will send his address to the editor of this paper, he will hear of something to advantage. Printers in the neighboring States are requested to copy." The latter clause was inserted from a vague suspicion that the rogue had taken up his abode in New York.

Having instructed the editor not to disclose his name to the rogue if he should call, but to request the latter to leave his address, the Quaker patiently waited the result of his experiment. In a short time he was informed, by a note from the printer, that the individual alluded to in the advertisement, having arrived from N. York might be found at the given place in the city.

The tailor lost no time in preparing a transcript of his account, nor forgetting to charge interest from the time the debt was incurred. Taking a constable with him, who bore a legal process suited to the occasion, he soon arrived at the lodgings of the swindler. The constable was instructed to stand off at a little distance till the signal should indicate the time for him to approach.

The Quaker now rang the bell, and, when the servant appeared, requested him to inform the gentleman of whom he was in search that a friend wished to speak with him at the door.

The man obeyed the summons, and soon both debtor and creditor were looking each other in the face.

"How dost thou do?" kindly inquired the Quaker.

"Perhaps thou dost not know me."

"I believe I have not had the pleasure of your acquaintance," politely answered our hero, "Dost thou, remember purchasing a suit of clothes, several years ago, of a poor tailor, and forgetting to pay for them?" asked the Quaker.

"Oh no!" said the gentleman, blushing slightly, "you must be mistaken in the person. It cannot be me that you wish to find."

"Ah! John, I know thee very well. Thou art the very man I wish to see. Thou hast on at this moment the very waistcoat that I made for thee. Thou must acknowledge it was of good stuff, and well made, or it could not have lasted thee so long."

"Oh yes," said the gentleman, appearing suddenly to recollect himself, "I do remember now the circumstances to which you allude. Yes yes—I intended to call and settle that little bill before leaving Philadelphia, and you may depend upon my doing so. I have come to take possession of a large amount of property which has fallen to me by will. See, here is the advertisement, which has apprised me of my good fortune."

Here he handed to the Quaker a New York paper containing a copy of the advertisement whose history we have given above. The Quaker looked at it with imperturbable gravity, and continued—

"Yes, I see thou art in luck, but as my demand is a small one, I think I must insist on payment before thou comest in possession of thy large estates."

The proper signal here brought the constable into the presence of the parties. The swindler was particularly astonished at the appearance of this functionary, who immediately began to exclaim his part of the drama.

"What!" exclaimed the rogue, in an angry tone "you haven't sued me?"

"Yes I have," replied the Quaker, "and thou shouldst be thankful that nothing worse had happened."

"Come in, then," said the debtor, finding himself caught, "come in, and I will pay you, if I must."

The three went into the house together, and the gentleman having ascertained the amount of the bill, paid it in full.

The tailor having signed the receipt, placed it in the hands of the late debtor, with feelings such as may readily be imagined. The swindler took it, and for the first time glanced at the various items of which it was composed. He said nothing till he came to the last charge, which was "For advertising," when he broke forth—

"Halloo! what's this! For advertising! That's an odd charge in a tailor's bill. Your cheating me?"

"Oh no," coolly replied the Quaker, "that is all right. I have charged you the cost of publishing the advertisement which thou hast just showed me."

Here the swindler uttered a horrid oath, as he demanded, "Do you mean to say that you caused the publication of that advertisement?"

"Truly I did," replied the Quaker, with provoking coolness.

"You told a—lie in it!" quickly retorted the rogue.

"Convince me of that," said the Quaker, "and thou wilt find me ready to confess the fault."

"You said I should hear something to my advantage, if I would come here."

"Thou art mistaken," immediately responded the Quaker, "I only promised that thou shouldst hear of something to advantage, and it is not to the advantage of a poor tailor to collect an old debt?"

"If I catch you in the street," said the swindler with an oath, and in the deepest rage, "I'll give you such a cowhiding as will not leave the breath in your body."

"Nonsense now," said the Quaker, "if thou really intends to do anything of that sort, we had better step into the back yard, and finish the business at once."

The rogue was completely nonplussed by the coolness of the Quaker, and stood silent and petrified.

"Now," said the tailor, good naturedly, "let me give thee a piece of advice. When thou hast occasion to get a suit of clothes, thou hadst better not attempt to cheat the poor tailor, but pay him honestly for then thy conscience will not disturb thee, and thy sleep will be sweet and refreshing. Farewell!"

There is no doubt of the literal truth of this story, as we received it sometime since from the lips of the Quaker himself. [N. Y. Tribune.

"Who said you was?" Pitt was preceeding to dine with the Lord Mayor of London, and being unpopular at the time, was hissed and booed. A gentleman in full dress—a joint of the minister's tail—observed one of the nobility looking at him, with his hand full of mud.

"I am not Mr. Pitt! I am not Mr. Pitt!" he vociferated from his carriage.

"Who said you was, spyony?" contemptuously exclaimed the fellow, at the same time emphatically flinging his handful in the gentleman's teeth.

ANALOGY OF MIND. The Vidal's Intelligence tells of a chap in its neighborhood, who went fishing and in a fit of absence of mind, baited his hook with a cigar, and then bit off the end of a worm preparatory to smoking. Ugh!

